

Air Force District of Washington, Chief Smith served as senior adviser to the 844th communications group, which is made up of more than 900 military personnel. In this highly important and visible position, he helped to provide cyber support to the President of the United States and also to other senior officials at the Pentagon.

During his 28 years of service to our country, Chief Smith's commitment and excellence as an outstanding airman did not go unnoticed. In 1989, he was recognized as the Air Mobility Command Student of the Year. In 2001 and 2003, Chief Smith earned the Defense Threat Reduction Agency's Information Management Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year Award. In 2005, he was named Air Force Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year and Air Force Communications and Information Professional of the Year.

John Rogers, the deputy director of the 844th Communications Group, summed up Chief Smith's career by saying: "He took care of our airmen and he was phenomenal. He embodied our core value of service before self."

Chief Master Sergeant Smith, on behalf of the people of the Fifth Congressional District, on behalf of the Congress of the United States, thank you for your admirable service to our country. The motto of the Air Force is "Aim High . . . Fly-Fight-Win." Chief Smith, throughout your career, you have aimed high and truly represented the best of the U.S. Air Force, and you have represented the best of our shared hometown of Flint, Michigan.

On behalf of my constituents in the Fifth Congressional District and on behalf of my colleagues here in Congress, congratulations to you on your outstanding career in the Air Force and your outstanding service to our country.

ISLAMIC STATE OF IRAQ AND SYRIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BENTIVOLIO) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, the crisis unfolding in Iraq is deeply troubling to the American people. The rapid fall of several cities in Iraq to terrorist Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, also known as ISIS, has brought the militant group dangerously closer to establishing a caliphate that spans the northern sections of Syria and Iraq.

ISIS has a reputation for brutality, including summary executions, beheadings, and, in some cases, crucifixions. The implications of the rise of ISIS for Iraq's ancient Christian community, along with its other religious minorities, is troubling.

For years we have witnessed the decline of Iraq's Christian community. Thousands have fled in the face of targeted violence. Those who remained relocated to Mosul and the Nineveh

plains. These areas were some of the last remaining havens for this beleaguered and brutalized Christian community in Iraq. In fact, Archbishop Warda, the Chaldean Diocese of Erbil, indicated this past Sunday that for the first time in 1,600 years there was no mass in Mosul.

The thousands who fled Mosul face displacement, imminent danger, and a growing humanitarian nightmare, including access to clean water, food, fuel, and electricity.

I urge the administration to engage with the Iraqi central government and the Kurdistan Regional Government to prioritize security and support for these vulnerable populations and provide emergency humanitarian assistance to those brutalized communities.

If nothing is done, we will most certainly witness the annihilation of an ancient faith community. I call on our international community to stand together to protect the natural rights of being persecuted by ISIS.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 30 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Rabbi Michael Lotker, Temple Ner Ami, Camarillo, California, offered the following prayer:

Dear God, You sustain us and inspire us. Yours is the unity connecting all things created by You and directing us to serve You in unity of purpose, spirit, and strength. Bless us with the resources to do Your work.

The very name of this Nation, the United States, and the very name of this institution, the Congress, underlines the power and indeed the holiness of such unity.

I therefore humbly request Your most ancient blessing for the people of this great Nation and for their elected Representatives.

"May God bless you and protect you. May God's light shine upon you and may God be gracious to you. May God's face be lifted before you and may God grant you peace."

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MARCHANT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MARCHANT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING RABBI MICHAEL LOTKER

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BROWNLEY) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, it is my great privilege to welcome a very good friend, Rabbi Michael Lotker, to be the guest chaplain of the House of Representatives today.

Rabbi Lotker is a teacher and a leader in Ventura County. He is the rabbi emeritus at Temple Ner Ami in Camarillo, California; the rabbi of Congregation Khilat HaAloneem in Ojai, California; and the community rabbi and teacher for the Jewish Federation of Ventura County. He is also a member of the Central Conference of American Rabbis and the Board of Rabbis of Southern California.

In addition to his work as a rabbi, Rabbi Lotker is an author and a physicist, with a focus on researching alternative energy sources such as wind, solar, and geothermal.

Known for his quick-witted humor, Rabbi Lotker writes parody songs for each of the Jewish holidays throughout the year.

For his spiritual leadership and thoughtful words, I would like to thank Rabbi Lotker for leading us in prayer today.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

CONSEQUENCES OF PRESIDENT'S FAILURE TO ENFORCE THE LAW

(Mr. MARCHANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, the current situation on our southern border is a direct result of this administration's failure to enforce our laws.

Since October, 47,000 unaccompanied women and children have illegally entered the U.S. By year's end, 90,000 minors will have illegally crossed into our country. When apprehended, the majority of those questioned say they came

expecting to be able to stay, to get a free pass. This is wrong, and my constituents are angry about it and will not tolerate it.

The President should immediately begin returning these illegal immigrants to their home countries. He must demand cooperation from the respective foreign governments and press them to stop spreading the false belief that America rewards illegal immigration with a *de facto* amnesty.

This is a crisis of the President's own creation. He must take real action to strengthen the border and strengthen security before it grows even worse and send a strong message that illegal immigration will not be rewarded.

HONORING LIFE AND LEGACY OF SAM GARCIA

(Mr. VEASEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Sam Garcia, a World War II veteran, businessowner, and renowned civic leader in the Fort Worth Hispanic community.

Mr. Garcia immigrated to the United States from Mexico at the age of 2, with his undocumented parents. After serving in the Army during World War II and earning three Bronze Stars, Mr. Garcia moved to Fort Worth in 1958. He later started his own successful construction company.

Mr. Garcia served Fort Worth, where he led many community service organizations in an effort to raise scholarship money. Mr. Garcia also edited and published *The Community News*, a newspaper committed to improving the quality of life in the Latino community of Fort Worth.

Mr. Garcia devoted his life to improving the life of others and was rightfully recognized in 1990 as the Fort Worth Volunteer of the Year and, in 1991, the Fort Worth Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Member of the Year. In 1999, he was the Man of the Year.

Mr. Garcia's leadership and dedication to the Fort Worth community will forever be marked in history.

CONGRATULATING MONTANA HISTORY DAY CONTEST TOP FINISHERS

(Mr. DAINES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Speaker, today, I am so proud to congratulate Sean-Daniel Taylor, Kane Knudson, Emma Gabbert, and Hayden Kunhardt, who are students from Washington Middle School in Glendive, Montana, for being top finishers in the Montana History Day Contest.

This week, they are among seven Montana students who traveled to the National History Day Contest in Washington, D.C. Out of 600,000 participants

in National History Day, less than 3,000 advance to the national contest, so I speak for all Montanans when I say that we are incredibly proud of their success.

It is truly great to see young students—young Montanans like Sean-Daniel, Kane, Emma, and Hayden—thinking critically about our Nation's history and the rights and responsibilities that come with citizenship.

Congratulations, again, to all seven Montana students competing in the National History Day Contest.

HONORING TROY EDGAR

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Troy Edgar, the chair of the board of the Orange County Sanitation District, and I congratulate him on his upcoming retirement.

Mr. Edgar was instrumental in ensuring the successful upgrade of the sanitation district's facilities, and I applaud him for his leadership in implementing a sustainable financial plan for the district, creating successful partnerships, and adopting effective policy in order to ensure the highest quality of water by the most cost-effective methods.

I hold Mr. Edgar in the highest regard for his outstanding public service and his efforts on behalf of the sanitation district and its mission to protect public health and our environment.

I thank Mr. Edgar for his role in Orange County. He is a great example of what a great public servant looks like, does, and acts. Again, I thank him for his leadership, his vision, for his commitment to the residents of Orange County.

I congratulate him. He is a star in our community, and I wish him luck in his future endeavors.

AMERICANS DON'T TRUST THE MEDIA

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Americans do not trust the liberal national media to provide them with accurate, fair, and balanced news.

A recent poll conducted by The Brookings Institution and Public Religion Research Institute found that only 23 percent of Americans consider the national broadcast news networks to be their most trusted news outlet, but 26 percent of independents listed FOX News as their most trusted network, compared to only 17 percent who chose the broadcast networks.

The least trusted network, according to the poll, is MSNBC. Only 5 percent of Americans selected that network as their most trusted news source.

Americans' distrust of the liberal national media will continue to grow until the media stops telling them what to think. There is a good reason why FOX News has been the highest rated cable news network for 12 straight years.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF TONY GWYNN

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, there has never been any question that Tony Gwynn was a great hitter, but probably the second most talked about aspect of Tony Gwynn was his laugh.

On Monday, we lost a great leader both on and off the field. Tony Gwynn passed away—surrounded by family—at age 54. We lost that great laugh.

Tony was described as a person who, after spending a few minutes with him, you felt better than you did before. Part of it was his laugh. He displayed that in playing baseball, as a teacher, and in his charitable work with his wife, Alicia. There was a special quality about him.

Tony turned down lucrative offers, offers that others might have picked up, but he turned those down to remain a San Diego Padre, and in this time of sports trades, that is a big deal.

It was not surprising that, after his playing days, he returned to his alma mater, San Diego State University, to teach and coach Aztec baseball—to be a mentor.

One of his students plays not too far from this Chamber at Nationals Park. Pitcher Stephen Strasburg played for Tony, who he described as a father figure.

Tony Gwynn leaves a lasting impact in San Diego. His loss is being felt throughout the community. We see that in the collective grief and celebration of his life.

CONGRATULATING BILL CLINE

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bill Cline for receiving the 2014 Colonel Edwin Drake Legendary Oilman Award, presented by the Petroleum History Institute.

The award is named after the famed Colonel Edwin Drake who, in 1859, drilled the first commercial oil well in the world, beginning the oil industry in Titusville, Pennsylvania. The award honors a lifetime of achievement within the oil and gas industry.

Mr. Cline is no stranger to the oil industry. Following his grandfather Willard Cline, he owns and operates Cline Oil in Bradford, Pennsylvania. The company operates hundreds of small